



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 20, 2009

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**TIDEWATER UTILITIES WATER RATE HIKE**  
**PSC Docket No. 09-29**

On January 26, 2009, Tidewater Utilities, Inc. (Tidewater) filed with the Delaware Public Service Commission an application for an overall rate increase of approximately 33 percent or over \$6 million. As required by law, the Public Service Commission has already approved, under bond and subject to refund, a portion of the proposed rate increase, which does not exceed 15 percent and which became effective March 17, 2009.

A Hearing Examiner will conduct public comment hearings on the following schedule:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Tuesday, March 24, 2009-	7:00 p.m. -	Public Service Commission Hearing Room 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100 Dover, DE 19903
Wednesday, March 25, 2009-	7:00 p.m. -	Delaware Tech (DTCC) Jack F. Owens Campus "The Lecture Hall," Room 529, William Carter Partnership Center Georgetown, DE 19947
Thursday, March 26, 2009-	7:00 p.m. -	Jean Birch MOT Senior Center 300 S. Scott Street Middletown, DE 19709

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The public comment hearings are for the purpose of taking statements from customers concerning the service being provided and the proposed rate increase.

A public evidentiary hearing, where the parties to the case formally introduce evidence into the record, will be scheduled for a later date. The Public Service Commission will likely make its decision in the fall of 2009.

Persons unable to attend the public comment hearing may submit written comments until June 1, 2009 to Karen Nickerson, Secretary of the Commission, Delaware Public Service Commission, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904. The comments may also be e-mailed to karen.nickerson.@state.de.us.